United Nations A/C.2/61/L.21

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
30 October 2006

Original: English

Sixty-first session
Second Committee
Agenda item 53 (a)
Sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Gabon, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Russian Federation and Singapore: draft resolution

International Year of Forests, 2011

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its commitment to the Non-legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of all Types of Forests[1] and Agenda 21,[2] adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the United Nations Millennium Declaration[3] adopted at the Millennium Summit in 2000, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation[5] adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg in 2002,

Also reaffirming its commitment to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[6] the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[7] the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries experiencing Serious

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex III.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] See resolution 55/2.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[7] Ibid., vol. 1771, No. 30822.

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Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[8] and other relevant conventions dealing with the complexity of forest issues,

Recognizing the role of forests and sustainable forest management in poverty eradication and achieving sustainable development, as recognized in the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/49 of 28 July 2006,

Convinced that concerted efforts should focus on raising public and political awareness on the sustainable management of all types of forests, as well as avoiding unsustainable exploitation and loss of forest habitats that have been under constant and severe pressure in the whole world,

1. *Decides* to declare 2011 the International Year of Forests;

2. *Decides also* that the secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, will facilitate the implementation of the International Year of Forests, in collaboration with Governments and with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, as well as the other institutions that compose the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, other international organizations and non-governmental organizations, in accordance with their mandates;

3. *Calls upon* Governments, national, regional and international organizations, the major groups and the private sector to support activities related to the Year, inter alia, through voluntary contributions, and to link their relevant activities to the Year;

4. *Encourages* voluntary partnerships among Member States, international organizations and major groups to facilitate and promote activities related to the Year at the local and national levels, including by creating national committees or designating focal points in their respective countries;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the state of preparations for the Year.

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[8] Ibid., vol. 1954, No. 33480.